

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 02473 051328Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 EURE-00 ORM-02 DHA-02 BIB-01 /063 W
-----051329Z 066984 /53

P R 041439Z APR 77 ZEL
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2567
INFO USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION BERLIN UNN
USMISSION NATO
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2473

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ADDRESSEE ADDED)

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, US, RO
SUBJECT: ANTI-EMIGRATION CAMPAIGN BROADENS INTO ANTI-AMERICANISM

REF: BUCHAREST 2426

1. SUMMARY. WEEKEND PRESS APRIL 2-4 NOT ONLY CONTINUED
INTENSE ANTI-EMIGRATION CAMPAIGN FOCUSED ON ETHNIC GERMANS
BUT ALSO EXPANDED INTO SUCH OTHER AREAS AS U.S. PRESS, RFE,
NEO-FASCISM, AND U.S. LIVING AND RACIAL CONDITIONS. FOREIGN
MINISTER TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT GOR HAD HAD ENOUGH OF WHAT IT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BUCAR 02473 051328Z

VIEWED AS NEGATIVE U.S. PRESS COVERAGE AND RFE REPORTAGE
AND HAD DECIDED TO STRIKE BACK. HE THEN CALLED FOR
MUTUAL REDUCTION IN PROPAGANDA "TO MAKE US ALL MORE
RATIONAL PERSONS." END SUMMARY.

2. WEEKEND PRESS APRIL 2-4 CONTINUES STRONG ATTACK
ON EMIGRATION BEGUN BY CEAUSESCU MARCH 28 (BUCHAREST

2426) BUT VEERS INTO MOST EXPLICITLY ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN WE HAVE SEEN FOR SOME TIME. ALL THREE ROMANIAN LANGUAGE DAILIES PLUS GERMAN LANGUAGE "NEUER WEG" PUBLISH ARTICLES DENOUNCING FOREIGN PROPAGANDA IN FAVOR OF SAXON EMIGRATION. APRIL 2 "SCINTEIA" ALSO FEATURES FRONT-PAGE ARTICLES BLASTING "BRAIN DRAIN" FROM LDC'S AND TRUMPETING VIGOROUSNESS OF GERMAN CULTURAL EXPRESSION IN ROMANIA. ANOTHER PAGE HAS AN ARTICLE ENTITLED "A NEW ACT OF PROVOCATION BY RFE" ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF A "SO-CALLED COMMITTEE OF ROMANIANS IN FRANCE--HEADED BY THE 'FASCIST' VASILE BOLDEANU." RFE, ARTICLE CONCLUDES, REPRESENTS "THE REACTIONARY AND FASCIST FORCES WHICH EXIST EVERYWHERE." INTERNATIONAL PAGE CARRIES WHAT IS ALLEGED TO BE REPRINT FROM "NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC" ON NEW YORK'S HARLAM, "THE RACIST GHETTO, A HUMILIATING PRISON OF DEGRADATION OF THE HUMAN CONDITION." ALSO, RECENT ARTICLE BY LA TIMES SEEGAR PRINTED IN INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE IS SUBJECT OF SHARP ATTACK IN LETTER BY DAUGHTER OF VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR HERE AND IN SEPARATE ARTICLE. LATTER WARNS THAT SUCH EXCESSES "CAN HAVE GRAVE REPERCUSSIONS ON THE RELATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN (THE TWO) PEOPLES." SEEGAR IS HIT IN PARTICULAR FOR PRINTING THE ALLEGATION THAT ONE OF CEAUSESCU'S MOTORCADE CARS RAN OVER SOMEONE.

3. "SCINTEIA" APRIL 3 CARRIES ENTIRE PAGE ENTITLED "ROMANIA:A GOOD MOTHER TO ALL HER CHILDREN" WHICH RECOUNTS STORIES OF EMIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED TO ROMANIA
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BUCAR 02473 051328Z

AFTER BITTER EXPERIENCES IN U.S., FRG, AND ITALY. JEWISH EMIGRATION, RFE, AND THE ROMANIAN COMMITTEE IN FRANCE ALSO TAKE THEIR LUMPS. TWO FRONTPAGE ARTICLE-EDITORIALS INCLUDING ONE BY AN ETHNIC HUNGARIANTMK UQINLO-NAZISM IN THE WEST, WHILE HALF OF INTERNATIONAL PAGE IS DEVOTED TO LONG ARTICLE EXCERPTED FROM "NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR" ENTITLED "HITLER IN CALIFORNIA." ACCOMPANYING THIS ARTICLE ARE TWO PHOTOGRAPHS, ONE OF "NEO-NAZI AMERICAN FUHER", ONE ALLEN VINCENT, THE OTHER ALLEGEDLY OF A CALIFORNIA NAZI WEARING T-SHIRT PROCLAIMING: "NOTHIK SAYS LOVIN LIKE A JEW BOY IN THE OVER." (SIC).

4. "ROMANIA LIBERA" APRIL 4 CARRIES FRIEND OF SAXONS AND SWABIANS" WHICH ATTACK EMIGRATION, RFE, NEO-FASCISM, CAPITALISM, AND OTHER ASSORTED EVILS. THE HUNGARIAN DESCRIBES RFE AS PRODUCING "SUBHUMAN SOUNDS OF TREASON AND DISCORD." NEO-FASCISM IN ITALY IS ALSO REVIEWED, WHILE THE TERRIBLE PLIGHT OF EMIGRANTS EVERYWHERE IS

UNDERLINED.

5. ALL THE ABOVE IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER USE THE FRAMEWORK OF AN ATTACK ON "LIBERTY" AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS UNDERSTOOD IN THE WEST AND THE U.S. IN PARTICULAR.

6. COMMENT: DURING MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU APRIL 3, AMBASSADOR RAISED SUBJECT OF RECENT SPATE OF VIRULENT ANTI-WESTERN AND SOME ANTI-U.S. ARTICLES IN SCINTEIA AND ROMANIA LIBERA. ALTHOUGH SPECIFIC CONTEXT OF QUESTION WAS LINKED TO WHETHER IT WAS CONNECTED TO 24-HOUR "BLOCADE" OF EMBASSY (BUCHAREST 2431), AMBASSADOR ALSO ASKED MINISTER FOR EXPLANATION OF WHAT HAD PRECIPITATED CAMPAIGN. MACOVESCU RESPONDED THAT ROMANIA QUITE SIMPLY HAD HAD ENOUGH OF NEGATIVE AMERICAN NEWSPAPER COVERAGE AND RFE REPORTAGE AND COMMENTARY. THE DECISION HAD BEEN MADE TO HIT BACK. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 BUCAR 02473 051328Z

MACOVESCU THEN LAUNCHED INTO A LONG LITANY OF ACCUSATION AND COMPLAINT ABOUT THE U.S. PRESS. HIS PRINCIPAL POINTS WERE THAT (A) ANYTHING THE USG WANTED TO GET PRINTED IN THE PRESS IT COULD; ANYTHING THE USG DIDN'T WANT TO APPEAR IN THE PRESS WOULDN'T. (B) ANY COMPARISON OF NEGATIVE U.S. PRESS COVERAGE OF ROMANIA OVER THE LAST YEAR OR SO WITH NEGATIVE PRESS COVERAGE OF THE U.S. APPEARING IN ROMANIAN PAPERS WOULD SHOW THERE HAD BEEN A VASTLY GREATER NUMBER OF ANTI-ROMANIAN STORIES APPEARING IN THE AMERICAN PRESS. (C) THE SICK FASCINATION OF THE U.S. PRESS IN FOCUSING ON NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF POST-EARTHQUAKE DEVELOPMENTS WAS PROOF OF HIS POINT, E.G. HIGHLIGHTING OF STORY ABOUT WOMAN KILLED BY CEAUSESCU MOTORCADE. (D) GOMA SOTYR WAS BEING BLOWN OUT OF ALL PROPORTION BY U.S. PRESS. (E) NEED TO BEWARE OF FASCIST-LIKE TENDENCIES REPRESENTED BY SUCH ELEMENTS IN U.S. AS COVERED IN SCINTEIA STORY AND BY RFE'S BEING WILLING TO MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH IRON GUARDIST PRIEST BOLDEANU AND HIS PARIS COMMITTEE. HE CHALLENGED AMBASSADOR TO REFUTE ANY OF CRITICAL MATERIALS APPEARING ABOUT U.S. SINCE THEY WERE ALL TAKEN FROM AMERICAN SOURCES.

7./3 -)5#97&# #3 -8\$ -5 9,3 098,5 5#-5 .943 :4858:-)

-458:3 297)\$ -003-4, MACOVESCU CONCLUDED THIS PORTION OF CONVERSATION BY MAKING PLEA FOR REDUCTION IN PROPAGANDA BY BOTH SIDES TO BE REPLACED BY INCREASED RESOURCES DEVOTED TO MORE EXCHANGES, ROUND TABLES, COLLOQUIES, ETC. "IN ORDER TO MAKE US ALL MORE RATIONAL PERSONS." AMBASSADOR RESPONDED BY NOTING HE WAS LESS CONCERNED BY CRITICAL ASPECTS OF PRESS

CAMPAIGN THAN BY THE EXAGGERATED FORM IT WAS TAKING.
HE CITED WEEKEND STORY ON CALIFORNIA NAZI MOVEMENT
AS EXAMPLE OF TOTALLY DISTORTED VIEW OF REALITY OF
AMERICAN POLITICS. HE ALSO REDICULED MACOVESCU'S
ASSERTION RELATING TO USG CONTROL OF PRESS TO THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 BUCAR 02473 051328Z

POINT THAT MACOVESCU RETREATED TO A POSITION THAT
HE WAS CERTAIN ANY STORY THE GOVERNMENT WANTED
PRINTED SOONER OR LATER WOULD BE. ON HUMAN RIGHTS
COVERAGE AMBASSADOR NOTED WE HAD ENTERED A NEW
PHASE OF OUR NATIONAL COMMITMENT WHICH INEVITABLY
WOULD POSE NEW PROBLEMS AND STRAINS BETWEEN US. HE
URGED THAT WE KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH AND KEEP TALKING
IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF EVENTS.
BARNES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROPAGANDA, SPEECHES, POLITICAL LEADERS, POPULATION MOVEMENTS, IMMIGRANT QUOTAS, EMIGRANTS, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BUCHAR02473
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770187-0096, D770116-0953
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770492/aaaadcmc.tel
Line Count: 190
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a74301ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUCHAREST 2426
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2911906
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-EMIGRATION CAMPAIGN BROADENS INTO ANTI-AMERICANISM
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, US, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a74301ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009